

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAM-01 /087 W

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R 080800Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4090

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

-EMBASSY LONDON 0613

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 0972

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

UNCLAS DAKAR 1375

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, OAU, SG

SUBJ: SENEGAL DECLINES TO RECOGNIZE MPLA, WHILE ACCEPTING ITS
ADMISSION TO OAU

1. SUMMARY: ON MARCH 3 GOS FORNMIN SECK PUBLICLY REAFFIRMED

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THAT SENEGAL HAD MADE NO DECISION TO RECOGNIZE MPLA. WHILE

SENEGAL BORE NO HOSTILITY TOWARD MPLA, ANGOLAN PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE FREE AND SOVEREIGN OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE LEADERS, IN SENEGAL'S VIEW. SECK SAID SENEGAL MAINTAINED PRINCIPLE THAT ALL EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS WAS INADMISSIBLE. HOWEVER, ALTHOUGH SENEGAL DISPUTED PROCEDURAL PROCESS WHICH WAS INVOLVED, IT TAKES COGNIZANCE OF OAU'S ADMISSION OF MPLA AND WILL TAKE NO ACTION PREVENTING NETO GOVERNMENT FROM ENJOYING FULLY ITS RIGHTS AS OAU MEMBER. END SUMMARY

2. IN MARCH 3 PRESS CONFERENCE, FORNMIN ASSANE SECK DISCUSSED PRESENT GOS VIEWS ON ANGOLA SITUATION. HE ARGUED THAT PROBLEM HAD TWO ASPECTS: SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION AND RIVALRY BETWEEN DIFFERENT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. SECK SAID OVERLAPPING OF TWO ASPECTS HAD CONFUSED ISSUE.

3. CONCERNING FIRST ASPECT, SECK EMPHASIZED THAT SENEGAL CONSIDERED SOUTH AFRICA TO BE "AFRICA'S PRINCIPAL ENEMY." SENEGAL HAD ALWAYS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ACTIONS DIRECTED AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA AND SMITH REGIME IN "ZIMBABWE." HE SAID SOUTH AFRICA'S CONTINUED ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA AS WELL AS ANGOLAN TERRITORY WAS "ADADMISSIBLE."

4. WITH RESPECT TO RIVALRY BETWEEN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, SECK NOTED THAT OAU CHARTER PGOSCRIBED INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE SAID THAT WHEN ONE MOVEMENT PREVAILS BY ITS OWN MEANS, "WE TAKE COGNIZANCE OF ITS VICTORY AND DO NOT SIT IN JUDGMENT." HOWEVER, IN ANGOLA, NON-AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAD PHYSICALLY INTERVENED. SECK SAID HE WAS ESSENTIALLY REFERRING TO SOVIET EXPERTS AND "MASSIVE" CUBAN INTERVENTION. PRETEXT GIVEN FOR THAT INTERVENTION WAS SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT. (WHAT WAS ASTONISHING, SECK SAID, WAS THAT THESE COUNTRIES HAD NEVER BEFORE BECOME INVOLVED EVEN THOUGH SOUTH AFRICA HAD OCCUPIED NAMIBIA ILLEGALLY FOR YEARS; LOGICALLY, HE ARGUED, SAME COUNTRIES SHOULD NOW PROCEED TO LIBERATE NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA.) UNFORTUNATELY, WHILE DEALING WITH SOUTH AFRICAN PROBLEM IN ANGOLA, EXTERNAL ARMS HAVE VANQUISHED ONE INTERNAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT, SECK SAID. HE STRESSED THAT SENEGAL HAD NO HOSTILITY AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL MOVEMENT, BUT IT MAINTAINED PRINCIPLE THAT ALL EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE AFFECTING INTERNAL AFFAIRS WAS INADMISSIBLE. "WHAT WE CANNOT UNCLASSIFIED

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ACCEPT AT HOME, WE CANNOT ACCEPT ELSEWHERE."

5. SECK DISCUSSED AT LENGTH PROCEDURAL PROBLEM POSED BY OAU'S ADMISSION OF ANGOLA, ARGUING THAT COMPETING APPLICATIONS BY TWO CANDIDATES POSED IMPORTANT QUESTION WHICH SHOULD HAVE NECESSITATED TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY FOR ADMISSION. HOWEVER, "WITHOUT ANY HOSTILITY TOWARD MPLA, WITH WHICH WE ARE NOW SIDE BY SIDE WITHIN OAU,....WE TAKE COGNIZANCE OF OAU

DECISION AND, AS MEMBER WE ACCEPT IT." WE WILL TAKE NO ACTION WHICH PREVENTS NETO AND HIS GOVERNMENT FROM ENJOYING FULLY THEIR RIGHTS AS OAU MEMBER. BUT SENEGAL HAS MADE NO DECISION ON BILATERAL PLANE. WHEN WE FIND OURSELVES ALONE, THAT WILL CHANGE NOTHING. WE MAINTAIN OUR POSITION OF PRINCIPLE AGAINST EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE.

6. ASKED WHAT SENEGAL WAS WAITING FOR TO TAKE BILATERAL DECISION IN FACE OF IRREVERSIBLE SITUATION, SECK RESPONDED THAT SENEGAL WISHED TO SEE THAT ANGOLAN PEOPLE, RECONCILED AMONG THEMSELVES, HAD MADE SOVEREIGN AND FREE DECISION TO CHOSE GOVERNMENT. EVEN IF IT BE NETO GOVERNMENT, SENEGAL WOULD CONSIDER THAT PEOPLE HAD CHOSEN THEIR LEADERS AND WOULD TAKE COGNIZANCE.
AGGREY

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